8070.bb
38

A LETTER FROM A MERCHANT TO A Member of Parliament,

RELATING TO
The Danger GREAT BRITAIN is
in of loſing her Trade, by the great
Increaſe of the Naval Power of *Spain*.

WITH A
Chart of the *Mediterranean Sea* Annex'd.

The SIXTH EDITION.

LONDON:
Printed in the Year MDCCXVIII.

BRITISH MUSEUM

November the 5th, 1718.

SIR,

THE late Action between His Majeſty's Fleet and that of *Spain*, is become the Entertainment of moſ Converſations; but the Misfortune is, that there is not one in Five Hundred of the Perſons who thus entertain themſelves, that has any juſt Idea o the good Conſequences thereof. For though th Words, *Sicily* and *Sardinia*, are often in thei Mouths, they ſcarce know in what Part of th World thoſe Iſlands are ſituated; and conſe quently muſt be ignorant of what Importanc it is to the Trade of *Great Britain*, to have them in the Hands of a Faithful Ally, and, if poſſible, of one who is not Formidable at Sea.

This is fully explain'd by the Annex'd Chart of the *Mediterranean* Sea: Whereby it demonſtratively appears, that *Sardinia* and *Sicily* lie like Two Nets ſpread to intercept, not only our *Italian*, but *Turkey* and *Levant* Trades.

For the Paſſage between *Sicily* and *Italy* to the *Levant* may effectually be blocked up by Ships of War from *Meſſina*; and the Canals of *Sardinia* and *Malta* (the uſual Courſe of our *Turkey* Ships, deſcribed by a Line drawn from the *Streights* of *Gibraltar* to *Scanderoon*) may be rendred very dangerous, if not wholly impracticable, by Cruiſers from *Syracuſa* and the *Southern* Ports of *Sicily*, and from *Cagliari* in *Sardinia*; And yet, as if this was not enough, our Ships are ſtill to run the Gantlope between the Ports of *Spain* on the one hand, and *Ceuta* and ſuch other Places as (it is ſaid, by a late Treaty) are to be deliver'd up to the *Spaniard* by the *Moors* on the Coaſt of *Barbary*, on the other.

Nor

Nor muſt *Cadiz* be forgotten, which, though lying on the *Atlantick* Ocean, is ſituated ſo near to the Mouth of the *Streights*, that it ſeems as a Key to lock it up. And ſhould the Naval Power of *Spain* increaſe in the manner it has lately done, it is very natural to expect, that Kingdom will either aſſume to her ſelf the Trade of the *Mediterranean* Sea, excluſive of all other Nations, or impoſe upon them what Toll ſhe pleaſes for paſſing the *Streights* of *Gibraltar*, in Imitation of the King of *Denmark* at *Elſinore*, and be in a much better Capacity to aſſert her Pretenſions.

Nor is the Loſs of our *Italian*, *Turkey*, and *Levant* Trades, the only Misfortune *Great Britain* is to apprehend from the Increaſe of the Naval Power of *Spain*, but our Trade to *Portugal* muſt alſo run the ſame Fate, from the *Spaniſh* Ports in *Biſcay* and *Galicia*, as appears by the Annexed Chart.

And ſhould the Enterprizing Prieſt, who now ſits at the Helm of the *Spaniſh* Government, think fit to attack *Portugal* (a Kingdom that can receive no Aſſiſtance from her Allies, but by Sea) with the numerous Troops of *Spain*, he muſt probably fall under the *Spaniſh* Yoke, and thereby *Spain* become ſole Miſtreſs of the Treaſure of the World!

So that without entring into the School-Boys Diſpute of Who ſtruck firſt? it is evident, the Trade of *Great Britain* muſt be entirely precarious, ſhould the Naval Power of *Spain* increaſe in Proportion to what it has lately done in ſo ſhort a Time, and that the Iſlands of *Sicily* and *Sardinia* ſhould continue in the Poſſeſſion of the *Spaniards*. I am,

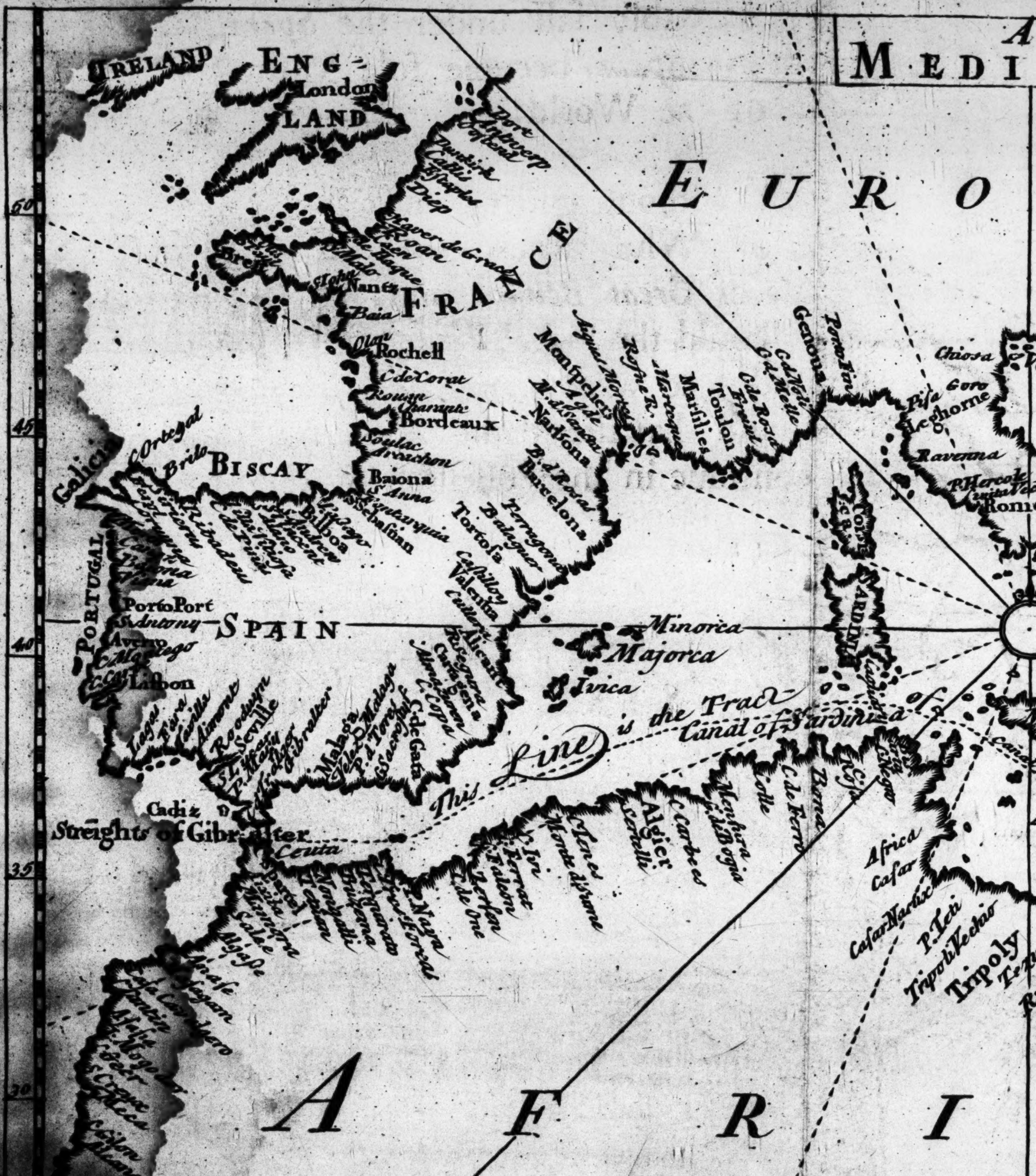
S I R,

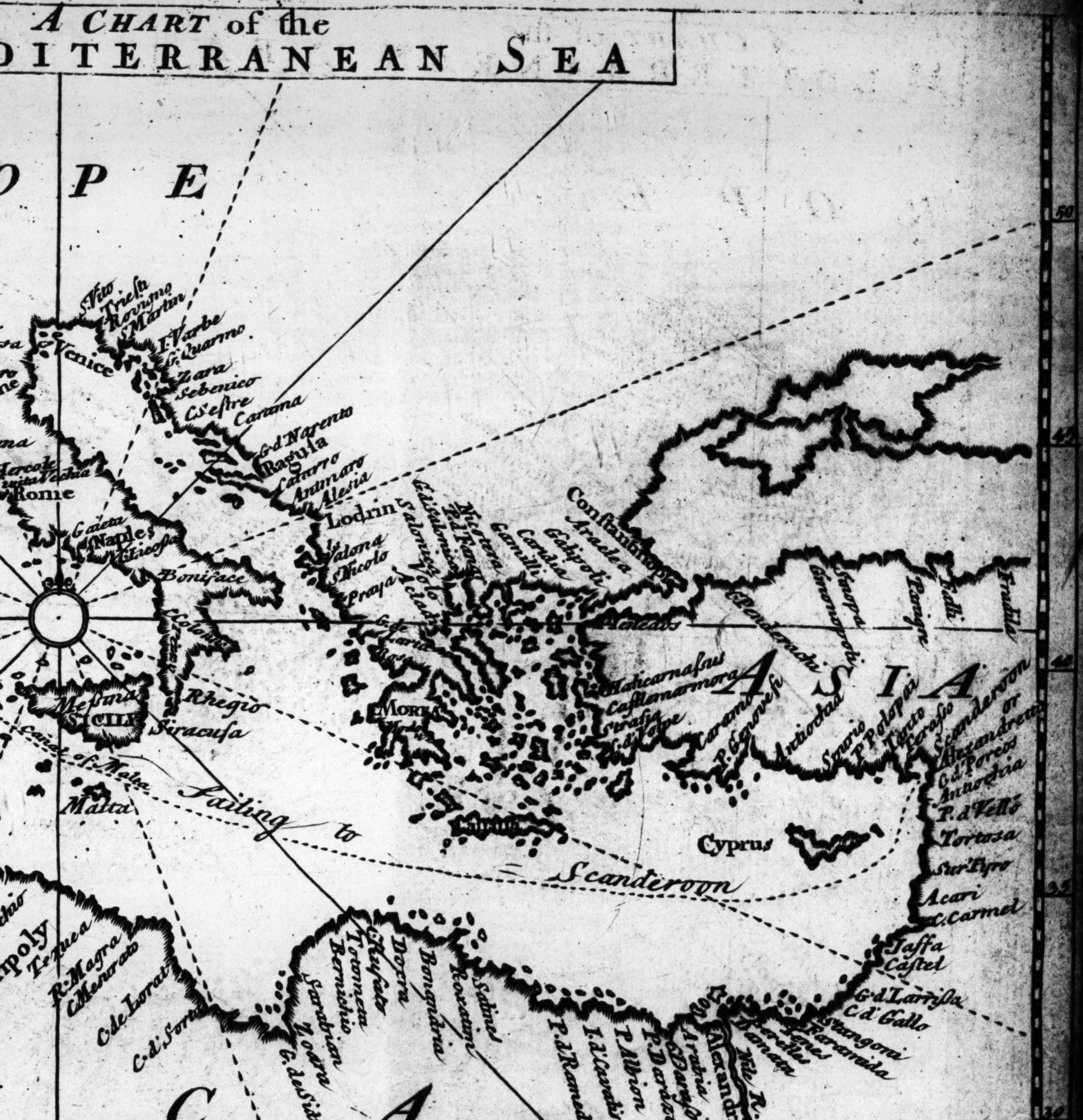
Your moſt Humble,

BRITISH 9 JY 74 MUSEUM

A N D

moſt Obedient Servant.


A
MEDI
IRELAND
ENG LAND
London
EURO
FRANCE
Port
Antwerp
Dunkirk
Callis
Diep
Haver de Grace
Roan
Brest
S. Malo
Nants
Baia
Rochell
C. de Corat
Bordeaux
Baiona
S. Anna
S. Sebastian
Fontarabia
Bilboa
BISCAY
C. Ortegal
Galicia
PORTUGAL
Porto Port
S. Antony
Avero
Lisbon
Lagos
Faro
Aimont
Seville
Cadiz
Streights of Gibralter
Gibralter
Ceuta
SPAIN
Malaga
Velez Malaga
C. de Gata
Alicante
Carthagena
Valentia
Tortosa
Taragona
Barcelona
Narbona
Montpelier
Marsilies
Toulon
Genoua
Pisa
Leghorne
Goro
Chiosa
Ravenna
Rome
Corsica
SARDINIA
Minorca
Majorca
Ivica
This Line is the Tract of
Canal of Sardinia
Algier
Bona
C. de Ferro
Collo
Africa
Casar
Tripoli Vechio
Tripoly
AFRI
50
45
40
35
30



A CHART of the
DITERRANEAN SEA

O P E
S.Vito
Triest
Rovigno
S.Martin
Venice
I.Varbe
G.Quarnro
Zara
Sebenico
C.Sestre
Carama
G.d'Narento
Ragusa
Cattaro
Antivaro
Alesia
Rome
Gaeta
Naples
Boniface
Lodrin
Valona
S.Nicolo
Praya
Salonica
Volo
Constantinople
Aradea
Galipoli
Candia
Rhegio
Messina
SICILY
Siracusa
Canal of Malta
Malta
Sailing to Scanderoon
MOREA
Cyprus
A S I A
Halicarnassus
Castlemarmora
C.Pomenesi
Antiochia
Scanderoon
Alexandretta
Tortosa
Tyro
Acari
C.Carmel
Jaffa
Castel
G.d'Larissa
C.d'Gallo
Alexandria
Nile R.
Tripoly
C.de Lorat
C.d'Sorta
Bonandrea
P.d'Rameda
P.Albion
Tocra
Bernichio
Zoara
Sarabian
G.de Sitra
Salines
C A
50
45
40
35
30